



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais  
Feidhmeannacht na  
Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Seomra 125, Ospidéal  
Dr. Steevens  
BÁC 8

Office of the Chief Financial Officer  
Health Service Executive  
Room 125, Dr Steevens  
Hospital  
Dublin 8

25<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Deputy James Browne TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**RE: PQ 24043 19:** *To ask the Minister for Health the spend on agency staff for mental health services in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019; and the original estimate for expenditure for mental health agency staff in each year in tabular form. -James Browne*

Dear Deputy Browne,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

In the table below please find the total cost of agency staff in the provision of mental health services for the years 2014 to year to date April 2019 being the most recent period for which information is available.

**HSE Agency Staff Costs for Mental Health Division for the period 2014 to Apr 2019**

*HSE Statutory & Voluntary Systems*

HSE Mental Health Division	2014 €000s	2015 €000s	2016 €000s	2017 €000s	2018 €000s	Ytd Apr19 €000s
Actual	26,819	33,992	43,141	52,981	58,130	18,152
Approved Allocation	3,876	14,603	15,886	31,059	39,368	14,371

*Source: HSE Consolidated Finance Intelligence System (CFI), HSE Corporate Reporting Solution (CRS) & Management Data Reports*

The actual data may be accessed at [www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/performance-reports/](http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/performance-reports/).

The HSE is committed to minimizing the use of Agency staff but recruitment and retention of Clinical, Nursing and other key staff is a constant challenge and impacts adversely on our ability to maintain safe and effective services. Agency staffing is also used to allow for flexible services designed to meet specific Service User needs and some short term requirements. The spend on Agency Staff is kept under constant review and where possible is replaced by HSE staff.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at [sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie) or tel: 045 882559.

Yours sincerely

*Sarah Anderson*

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